



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P O Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

09/820,589

03/30/2001

James T. Dollins

GP-300750

5685

7590 07/21/2008
ANTHONY LUKE SIMON
GENERAL MOTORS CORP - LEGAL STAFF
MAL CODE 482-C23-B21
P O BOX 300
DETROIT, MI 48265-3000

EXAMINER

UTAMA, ROBERT J

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3714

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

07/21/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/820,589	Applicant(s) DOLLINS ET AL.	
	Examiner ROBERT J. UTAMA	Art Unit 3714	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05/20/2008.

2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 is/are pending in the application.

 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:

1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Status of the application

1. This office action is a result of the amendment and arguments filed on 06/16/2008. The current status of the claims in the application are as follow: claims 1-3 are still pending. No claim has been cancelled or withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claim 1 - 3 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Jacober et al 6,020,886.

Claim 1: The Jacober reference provides a teaching of integrating a business process and related training from which the business process is supported and task are completed (see col. 3:4-20) including a model of the business process wherein the business process includes stages defined by series of roles and task linked to an application system being used to carry out the business process (see FIG. 7 and col. 11:35-47) and defined by an interface, content and scenarios defined by series of roles and task linked to the application being used to carry out the business process (see col. 7:45-67) is supported by guidance from the integrated tools wherein selected portion of the integrated tools are accessed during the use of the application system to carry out the business process (see col. 3:4-20) wherein steps of the business process are identified and defined in the model (see FIG 7 and col. 11:35-47) and wherein in a scenario provides instruction through the content which defines the roles (see col. 11:35-47) and demonstrates the action necessary to complete the task linked to the system being used to carry out the business process (see col. 11:25-37) through at least one of graphical and textual material via the interface (see 7:55-8:10 and col. 11:25-37 “animation and text”).

Claim 2: The Jacober reference provides a teaching of integrating a business process and related training from which the business process is supported and task are completed (see col. 3:4-20) including a model of the business process wherein the business process includes stages defined by series of roles and task linked to an application system being used to carry out the business process (see FIG. 7 and col. 11:35-47) and defined by an interface, content and scenarios defined by series of roles and task linked to the application being used to carry out the business process (see col. 7:45-67) is supported by guidance from the integrated tools wherein selected portion of the integrated tools are accessed during the use of the application system to carry out the business process (see col. 3:4-20) wherein steps of the business process are identified and defined in the model (see FIG 7 and col. 11:35-47) and wherein in a scenario provides instruction through the content which defines the roles (see col. 11:35-47) and demonstrates the action necessary to complete the task linked to the system being used to carry out the business process (see col. 11:25-37) through at least one of graphical and textual material via the interface (see 7:55-8:10 and col. 11:25-37 “animation and text”). The scenario includes a task stage (see FIG. 7 and col. 11:35-47) and action stage (see col. 12:46-61) and wherein the action stages includes a cross functional link from the process function to a supplementary action, the supplementary action supports the process function and outside the process function task (see FIG. 7 bullet 3 and 5 “Optional”).

Claim 3: The Jacober reference provides a teaching of integrating a business process and related training from which the business process is supported and task are completed (see col. 3:4-20) including a model of the business process wherein the business process includes stages defined by series of roles and task linked to an application system being used to carry out the business process (see FIG. 7 and col. 11:35-47) and defined by an interface, content and scenarios defined by series of roles and task linked to the application being used to carry out the business process (see col. 7:45-67) is supported by guidance from the integrated tools wherein selected portion of the integrated tools are accessed during the use of the application

Art Unit: 3714

system to carry out the business process (see col. 3:4-20) wherein steps of the business process are identified and defined in the model (see FIG 7 and col. 11:35-47) and wherein in a scenario provides instruction through the content which defines the roles (see col. 11:35-47) and demonstrates the action necessary to complete the task linked to the system being used to carry out the business process (see col. 11:25-37) through at least one of graphical and textual material via the interface (see 7:55-8:10 and col. 11:25-37 "animation and text") which provides options of selection process function categories (see col.3:35-45) wherein the process function categories includes a series of stages (see FIG 7 step 1-5), the stages roles and task are linked to the application system being used to carry out the business process (see col. 3:4-20) and explained through task scenario supported by the application system (col. 7:55-67) a task scenario that demonstrate the action type required by the business process, the action scenario provides guidance through at least one of graphical, audio and textual material via an interface (see 7:55-8:10 and col. 11:25-37 "animation and text").

Response to Arguments

4.

5. The applicant set forth the argument that the Jacober reference cited by the examiner fails to provide a teaching of "integrating a business process and related training from which the business process is supported and task are completed." The examiner respectfully disagrees. The Jacober reference provides a teaching of an integrated tool using a spreadsheet (see col. 8:43-50) and the related training from which the business process is supported (see col. 10:20-32). The examiner disputes the applicant notions that the Jacober reference only provides a teaching of a simulated environment. The Jacober reference explicitly teaches that both application program and demonstration program needs to exist simultaneously in the memory space (see col. 6:11-25 and FIG. 3). The examiner interprets the definition of "integrate" as incorporating different part into a larger unit (see Merriam Webster

Art Unit: 3714

dictionary). Hence, the examiner takes the position that the Jacober reference set forth explicit teaching of an integration between training tool (demonstration unit) and business process (spreadsheet).

6. Secondly, the applicant also argues that the Jacober reference cited by the examiner fails to provide a teaching of “an application system being used to carry out the business process wherein the business process defines the progression information by the series of roles and task linked to the application system being used to carry out the business process.” The examiner respectfully disagrees. In this case the business process supported is the business process of using the spreadsheet to execute the roles and task of the whereis function (see col. 10:20-35). It is a well known that spreadsheet application program is used in different business process (e.g.: accounting process).

Conclusion

7. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ROBERT J. UTAMA whose telephone number is (571)272-1676. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:00-5:30.

Art Unit: 3714

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Pezzuto can be reached on (571)272-6996. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/R. J. U./
Examiner, Art Unit 3714

/XUAN M. THAI/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3714